WO 2004/039808 PCT/IB2003/004866

WE CLAIM:

- 1 1. A process for the preparation of N²-Acetyl-9- (1,3-diacetoxy-2-
- 2 propoxymethyl)guanine of Formula I in pure form, the process comprising:
- obtaining a solution of N²-Acetyl-9-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl) guanine in
- one or more solvents; and recovering the N^2 -Acetyl-9-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl)
- 5 guanine in pure form by the removal of the solvent.

6

- 1 2. The process of claim 1, wherein the solvent comprises one or more of lower
- 2 alkanol, ketone, chlorinated solvent, water, or mixtures thereof.
- 1 3. The process of claim 2, wherein the lower alkanol comprises one or more of
- 2 primary, secondary and tertiary alcohols having from one to six carbon atoms.
- 1 4. The process of claim 2, wherein the lower alkanol comprises one or more of
- 2 methanol, ethanol, denatured spirit, n-propanol, isopropanol, n-butanol, isobutanol, and t-
- 3 butanol.
- 1 5. The process of claim 2, wherein the lower alkanol comprises one or more of
- 2 methanol, ethanol, and denatured spirit.
- 1 6. The process of claim 2, wherein the ketone comprises one or more of acetone, 2-
- butanone, and 4-methylpentan-2-one.
- 1 7. The process of claim 2, wherein the chlorinated solvent comprises one or more of
- 2 chloroform, dichloromethane and dichloroethane.
- 1 8. The process of claim 1, wherein removing the solvent comprises one or more of
- distillation, distillation under vacuum, filtration, filtration under vacuum, decantation, and
- 3 centrifugation.

WO 2004/039808 PCT/IB2003/004866

1 9. The process of claim 1, further comprising additional drying of the product

- 2 obtained.
- 1 10. The process of claim 1, further comprising cooling the solution and filtering
- 2 unreacted solids before removal of the solvent.
- 1 11. The process of claim 10, further comprising adding additional solvent after
- 2 removal of the solvent and cooling.
- 1 12. The process of claim 11, further comprising the removal of the solvent.
- 1 13. The process of claim 1, wherein the N²-Acetyl-9-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl)
- 2 guanine obtained has a purity of more than 98%.
- 1 14. The process of claim 13, wherein the N²-Acetyl-9-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-
- 2 propoxymethyl) guanine obtained has a purity of more than 98.5%.
- 1 15. The process of claim 14, wherein the N²-Acetyl-9-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-
- 2 propoxymethyl) guanine obtained has a purity of more than 98.8%.
- 1 16. The process of claim 1, wherein the N²-Acetyl-9-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl)
- 2 guanine obtained has less than 0.5% of monoacetyl and diacetyl guanine impurity.
- 1 17. The process of claim 1, wherein the N²-Acetyl-9-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl)
- 2 guanine obtained has less than 0.15% of monoacetyl and diacetyl guanine impurity.
- 1 18. N²-Acetyl-9- (1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl)guanine having a purity of more
- 2 than 98%.
- 1 19. N²-Acetyl-9- (1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl)guanine having a purity of more
- 2 than 98.5%.
- 1 20. N²-Acetyl-9- (1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl)guanine having a purity of more
- 2 than 98.8%.
- 1 21. N²-Acetyl-9- (1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl)guanine containing less than 0.5%
- 2 of monoacetyl and diacetyl guanine impurity.

PCT/IB2003/004866 **WO 2004/039808**

N²-Acetyl-9- (1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl)guanine having less than 0.15% of 22. 1

- monoacetyl and diacetyl guanine impurity. 2
- A process for the preparation of ganciclovir of Formula II, the process comprising 23. 1
- hydrolyzing N²-Acetyl-9-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxymethyl) guanine of formula I prepared 2
- by the process of claim 1. 3

4